

Message Text

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73/46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20 OMB-01 DPW-01 IO-12 RSR-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2809

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC/POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6845

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A T H R E E

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, TH

SUBJECT: THANAT ALLEGATIONS RE 1962 U. S. MILITARY INTRODUCTION

REF: A. BANGKOK 6726

B. BANGKOK 6747

1. THOUGH NOT IDENTICAL, THE STATEMENTS MADE MAY 15, 1962 BY RTG AND USG EMPHASIZE THAT DECISION TO DEPLOY MARINES WAS MADE JOINTLY BY TWO GOVERNMENTS IN RESPONSE TO CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER FROM COMMUNIST FORCES IN LAOS. THAI STATEMENT INCLUDES SUCH PHRASES AS " IN THE FACE OF THIS THREAT, HIS MAJESTY' S GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENTS OF FRIENDLY NATIONS WHICH ARE CONCERNED OVER THE SECURITY AND SAFETY OF THAILAND CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO ADOPT MEASURES TO PREVENT THE DANGER FROM SPREADING INTO THIS COUNTRY." "... PURSUANT TO THE OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE SEATO TREATY, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND HIS MAJESTY' S GOVERNMENT HAVE AGREED THAT SOME UNITS OF THE U. S. FORCES BE STATIONED

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IN THAILAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF COOPERATING WITH THE THAI ARMED FORCES IN DEFENDING AND PRESERVING THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND QGAINST THE THREAT OF THE PRO- COMMUNIST TROOPS WHICH ARE PRESENTLY APPROACHING THAI TERRITORY..." WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT ALSO EMPHASIZES JOINT NATURE OF DECISION, BEGINNING " FOLLOWING JOINT CONSIDERATION BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THAILAND OF THE SITUATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT HAS INVITED, AND I HAVE TODAY ORDERED... THE DISPATCH OF U. S. FORCES TO THAILAND WAS CONSIDERED DESIRABLE BECAUSE OF RECENT ATTACKS IN LAOS BY COMMUNIST FORCES, AND THE SUBSEQUENT MOVEMENT OF COMMUNIST MILITARY UNITS TOWARD THE BORDER OF THAILAND..."

2. FYI CLASSIFIED MEMCON ON MAY 13, 1962, CONTAINS FOLLOWING RELEVANT PASSAGE: " THE P. . (SARIT) SUGGESTED THAT THE DEPLOYMENTS BE RELATED TO THE RUSK- THANAT STATEMENT. THE AMBASSADOR (YOUNG) SUGGESTED THAT IN MAKING THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT IT BE POINTED OUT THAT THE TROOPS ARE COMING AT THE INVITATION OF THE RTG AND THAT ANNOUNCEMENTS BE ISSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY IN BANGKOK AND WASHINGTON." THE MEMCON DOES NOT INDICATE WHETHER THE PM AGREED OR DISAGREED WITH THE FORMULATION PROPOSED BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG. END FYI.

3. WE PLAN TO PROVIDE THE TEXTS OF THESE TWO PRESS STATEMENTS OF MAY 15, 1962 TO AMERICAN WIRE SERVICES AND OTHER SELECTED NEWS ORGANIZATIONS. SINCE WE FEEL PUBLIC SLUGGING MATCH WITH THANAT WOULD ONLY BE HARMFUL, PLAN UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED TO RESTRICT OUR COMMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE THE STATEMENTS BY THE HAI AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS ANNOUNCING THE DEPLOYMENTS ARE ON THE PUBLIC RECORD AND SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. BOTH DOCUMENTS EMPHASIZE THAT THE DECISION TO DEPLOY TROOPS HERE IN 1962 IN RESPONSE TO A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER UNQUOTE. ON BACKGROUND WE WILL POINT OUT TO REPORTERS THAT ALTHOUGH THE AMERICAN TEXT SPECIFICALLY USES THE WORD " INVITED" AND THE THAI DOES NOT, IT IS CLEAR FROM READING THEM THAT THEY WERE WRITTEN IN THE SAME SPIRIT AND THAT BOTH PARTIES FELT THE DEPLOYMENTS WERE IN THEIR MUTUAL BEST INTERESTS.
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